



**AMENDMENT UNDER CFR 1.116
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE
EXAMINING GROUP 1746**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Confirmation No.: 7420

Takaei SASAKI et al.

Group Art Unit: 1746

Serial No.: 10/706,944

Examiner: Michail Kornakov

Filed: November 14, 2003

Attorney Docket No.: 101136-00103

For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR DRY-ETCHING HALF-TONE PHASE-SHIFT FILMS, HALF-TONE PHASE-SHIFT PHOTOMASKS AND METHOD FOR THE PREPARATION THEREOF, AND SEMICONDUCTOR CIRCUITS AND METHOD FOR THE FABRICATION THEREOF

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR §1.116

Mail Stop: AF

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Date: December 23, 2004

Sir:

In reply to the outstanding Office Action dated September 3, 2004, the period for response being extended one-month from December 3, 2004, to January 3, 2004, with the filing of the attached Petition for Extension of Time, please amend the application as shown on the following pages:

01/07/2005 CQUEEN 00000003 012300 10706944

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120.00 DA

respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. Any additional fees may be charged to Counsel's Deposit Account 01-2300, referencing attorney docket number 101136-00103. Please charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 01-2300, making reference to Attorney Docket No. 101136-00103.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Robert K. Carpenter". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a horizontal line drawn underneath the name.

Robert K. Carpenter
Registration No. 34,794

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RKC/tdd

Attachment: Substitute Abstract